

It is good then just to go down on your knees in prayer. I remember some time ago, when someone said something that was a real snub and made me feel extremely wild inside and very humiliated. But, uncharacteristically, I went into Church and thanked God for it, and to my astonishment came out feeling good.

*Fr. Michael Carey*

### **Mass intentions for Next Week**

<b>Mon</b> 8.00am Paul Murphy	<b>Sat</b> 10.00am Owen Kennedy
<b>Mon</b> 10.00am Mary Moody	Gerry Ryan (MM)
<b>Tues</b> 8.00am Paschal Hanratty	<b>Sat</b> 6.30pm Betty Stokes
<b>Tues</b> 10.00am Jack & Charlie McGrane	
<b>Wed</b> 8.00 Anne McEntee	<b>Sun</b> 8.30am Bridget O'Toole
<b>Wed</b> 10.00 Tommy & Una Sherlock	<b>Sun</b> 11.00pm Patrick & Bridget Lenehan
<b>Thurs</b> 8.00am Joe Prendergast	
<b>Thurs</b> 10.00am Eleanor Duneue	
<b>Fri</b> 8.00am John & Joan Bourke & family	<b>Sun</b> 6.30pm Mary & Charlie Murphy
<b>Fri</b> 10.00am Joseph Prendergast	

### **Church of the Visitation Drynam    The Visitation of the BVM**

**Mass Times for Drynam: Sun, 10.00am, 11.00am (Irish Mass)& 12 noon ,Mon 9.20am**

Next Sunday we will launch the Fundraising Campaign for our new church in Drynam. There will be an update on progress to date at all Masses and an outline of opportunities for people to volunteer to help in this exciting project.

### **Fundraising Manager for Drynam New Church**

The Church of Our Lady of the Visitation in Drynam is part of Swords Parish. Archbishop's House has approved the replacement of the current Pre Fab church with a permanent structure that will serve the needs of the local communities of Drynam, Kinsealy Court, Melrose, Kinsealy Downs, Holywell and surrounding areas. We must raise €950,000 to build the church. We have prepared a detailed fundraising business plan to achieve this. We require an experienced Fundraising Manager to assist the existing Fundraising Committee on a voluntary basis to achieve the objectives of the plan. If you feel you could contribute to directing this exciting project please contact Fr. Michael Carey, Fr Peter McCarron, or the Drynam Pastoral Team at drynamchurch@gmail.com.

### **Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

The Sundays of the year allow the Christian Church to ponder the mysteries of the Lord. One of these mysteries is the forgiveness of God. Those who approach the Sacrament of Penance obtain pardon from God's mercy for the offences which they have committed against him. At the same time, they are reconciled with the Church.

**Reflection** - The Sacrament of Confession is so called because it reflects both meanings of the word 'confess'. In the first place, the disclosure of sins to a priest is an essential element of this sacrament. Secondly, it is also a confession — an acknowledgement and praise of the holiness of God and of his mercy towards sinful humankind. (*Source: St. Paul's Missal.*)

The Bethany Bereavement Support Group are hosting a free public talk in the West County Hotel, Chapelizod on Tuesday 25th October at 8pm, entitled 'Living with Loss' presented by Pat Kavanagh. All welcome no booking required.

**Fr. Michael Carey-8403378: Fr. Peter McCarron-8405948, 087 1621662**  
**Parish Secretary: Colette Stokes - Parish Office, Seatown Road-8407277**  
*(Mon to Fri 9.15am-12.30pm & Tues-Thurs 2pm-4pm)*  
**Sacristy: -8400547 (Mon -Sat 9.30am-9.55am and 10.30am to 10.50am)**  
**Website: www.swords-parish.com Email: stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com**

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

## **Prayer-it is not always easy**

“In the shadow of your wings protect me”

### **Newsletter Sunday 16th October 2016**

In today's Gospel Jesus tells his disciples a parable about the need to pray continuously and never lose heart. The late Cardinal Basil Hume in his book *The Mystery of the Cross*, wrote the following sentences on prayer and I personally find what he has to write very inspiring.

#### **Prayer: Alone with God**

In recent times it has become fashionable in Christian spirituality to put great emphasis on service of our neighbour and to equate that service with prayer. There is much truth in this idea, but it is a half-truth. There can be no substitute in the spiritual life for being alone with God. There must be that part of spirituality which is private and individual - secret between me and my God. It is that daily attempt to become increasingly aware of the presence and action of God in our lives and to know the growing desire within us for some kind of closeness to him.

There must be in everybody's life an attempt to find some space in the day for prayer, however brief. It is normally in prayer that our awareness of God and our desire are awakened. It is not easy for us in contemporary Ireland to find time and place to be alone with God, but the saints have taught us, and experience shows, that we all need to include space in the day and in the mind to allow God to enter into our lives. It is not always easy. We are busy people; we have many responsibilities. Our minds are preoccupied with many things. We have to make an effort to find an opportunity to be alone with God. We can easily become discouraged if, having made every effort to become persons of prayer, we feel that we are getting nowhere. Perhaps we expect too much to enjoy a sense of God's presence and to delight in it. When it is not thus, we feel that we have failed. It is not so. Our part is to try. God's consolations are his gift.

#### **The small hurts of daily life.**

In my experience there are quite a number of daily hurts that are part of life, and as far as I am personally concerned, I think about a dozen missed opportunities occur every day. It is important to see the small hurts that happen each day as a call from God to turn to him. Sometimes He cannot get through without shouting very loud and clear, and the most effective way of shouting is to pull us up short. Suffering is one of those ways. All those small things that can come our way - feeling neglected, feeling there are those who despise us, the sense of being criticised unfairly—those are the sort of things that leave a hurt, not a big hurt, but a little one. How do we use such moments? It is astonishing how a little hurt can cause quite an explosion inside of anger and fury with the other person because they have despised or criticised us. I am sure there is only one way to turn something destructive into something positive and that is to realise it is a real self-emptying when those things happen.



## ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

*Year of Mercy – “Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful” (Lk.6:36)*

### Bible Read-athon

There is just a few days to go and I'm delighted to say that at the time of printing practically all slots are filled. If there is a spare slot I invite you to be generous and please **SIGN YOUR NAME**. Thank you very much to all who have signed, I trust and believe that you will find it a rewarding experience.



To emphasise, yet again, it is not about being a good reader or have many 'look on' as you read. As I said in last week's newsletter, there is no need for preparation. You just turn up and carry on reading from where the reader before you finished.

To clarify, the schools which hopefully will come on board will read from 2.30 to 3.00pm, to tie in with their school finishing time. The Bible readathon will be held on the Feast of St. Luke, Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> Oct from 3.00pm to 9.00pm, in St. Colmcille's Church. The day is divided into 10 minute slots.

### Altar List of the Dead

These lists are now available at the back of the Church. The new lists will be placed in front of the altar on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November – The Feast of All Souls. All Masses on the First Friday of the month will be offered for the names on the Altar List of the Dead. The completed envelopes can be returned to the Sacristy or the Parish Office.

**Drynam** - The Church of Our Lady of the Visitation will make its own arrangement for the celebration of Mass for the 'altar list of the dead'

### Mass of Remembrance

On Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November at 7.30pm, the Parish will celebrate Mass to remember and pray for all parishioners and friends who died during the past year. During this Mass each person will be remembered by name. All welcome especially family and friends. If you have a family member who died during the past year and would like their name called out, please contact Colette in the Parish Office (01-8407277) before Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October

### Church Cleaners

The next date for cleaning the Church is next **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October** after the 10.00am Mass. Can the cleaners for this second Friday of the month please turn up! Also if anyone has a half hour to spare you would be most welcome

### The Bible's Most Important People

**Joshua** - Moses' right hand man. Joshua, the son of Nun, led Israel to victory against the Amalekites. He spied out Canaan before the Israelites entered it and came back with a positive report. For his faith, he was one of only two men of his generation who entered the Promised Land. God chose Joshua to succeed Moses as Israel's leader. After Moses' death, Joshua led the Israelites into the Promised land.

### Mission Sunday

Next Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> October is World Mission Sunday. There will be a special collection at Mass replacing the usual Share collection. "Today vast numbers of people still do not know Jesus Christ. For this reason, the mission continues to be most urgent. All the members of the Church are called to participate in this mission, for the Church is missionary by her very nature: she was born 'to go forth'" – Pope Francis.

#### **Theme**

This year's Mission Sunday theme is: 'Every Christian is a Missionary' fits in with the pope's call to the Whole Church to become involved in evangelisation. Each of us is asked to leave our comfort zone and reach out to others to spread the joy of the Gospel

### Invitation

A Unique Day Conference: **Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> 2016**, 10am – 4pm

**“The Joy of Love, Amoris Laetitia and the World Meeting of Families in Ireland**

**2018**“at St Patrick's College, Drumcondra, Dublin 9. It is a working in-service day for all of us preparing for the journeys leading to and towards participating in the World Meeting of Families, 2018. Pre-booking and registration is required for this event as places will be limited. Individual booking forms should be completed as soon as possible to include you and your colleagues and representatives. **Admission is free.** Lunch will be provided. Contact Colette at the Parish Office if you are interested

### **B.E. - BEGINNING EXPERIENCE**

B.E. is a support group for those coping with the pain of loss of their life partner, through Death, Separation or Divorce. Few people are able to cope alone with the pain of loss. Do you find that you need more support than family and friends can provide? Seeking help is a sign of strength and self-knowledge – not weakness. This is a healing ministry, which helps to resolve the grief that goes with the end of a marriage or relationship. Coping effectively with bereavement is a skill we can all learn.

Next residential weekend will be held **18<sup>TH</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> November** in **Emmaus Retreat Centre, Swords, Co Dublin**. For further information please contact 086 0877379 or email [bedublin@gmail.com](mailto:bedublin@gmail.com). [www.beginningexperience.ie](http://www.beginningexperience.ie)

### The Difference

I got up early one morning and rushed right into the day;  
I had so much to accomplish, I didn't have time to pray.  
Problems just tumbled about me and grew heavier with each task;  
Why doesn't God help me, I wondered; He answered, "You didn't ask".  
I wanted to see joy and beauty, but the day toiled on, gray and bleak;  
I wondered why God didn't show me – He said, "But you didn't seek".  
I tried to come to God's presence; I used all my keys at the lock;  
God gently and lovingly chided, "My child, you didn't knock".  
I woke up early this morning and paused before entering the day;  
I had so much to accomplish that I had to take time to pray. (Grace L. Naessens)